GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:317
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2016
E-Waste Trade
Joshi Shri Chandra Prakash

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to formulate a new legislation to control e-waste trade in the country and if so, the details of the scheme formulated in this regard;
(b) whether the Government has constituted an expert committee to assess financial loss and adverse impact on human beings due to e-waste;
(c) if so, the details and present status thereof; and
(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a) e-Waste trade is regulated through the multiple provisions of e-Waste (Management) Rules, notified in March, 2016 and Hazardous and Other waste (Management and Transboundary Movement) Rules, notified in April 2016. Import of e-waste for disposal in the country is prohibited under these rules. Import of e-waste for recycling is regulated through prior approval of the Ministry. However, no permission has been granted by the Ministry for any such import of e-waste during last five years. The procedure for import of used and refurbished electronic and electrical equipments for various purposes including for Research & Development, training, spare parts for warranty replacement, repair, renting and others has been simplified, and in most of the cases it is based upon Standard Operating Procedure.

The domestic trading of e-waste is regulated e-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016 which provides for extended producer responsibility making it obligatory for all the producers to put in place mechanism for environmentally sound channelization of e-waste to authorized recyclers/dismantlers. The Rules have the flexibility providing for instruments like setting up of producer responsibility organizations, e-waste exchange, and financial mechanism in the form of Deposit Refund Scheme enabling producers to collect and channelize e-waste, their dismantling for recycling purposes. Specific responsibility has also been assigned to bulk consumers of electronic products for safe disposal of end of life electronic and electrical equipments. Simplification in permission process for dismantling and recycling facilities through single authorization through Standard Operating Procedure has been incorporated.
(b) No expert committee has been constituted by this Ministry to assess financial loss and adverse impact on human beings due to e-waste.

(c)&(d) Does not arise in view of answer at (b) above.

******